

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as set forth hereinbelow.

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 11, wherein~~  
A method for treating metal working fluid, comprising the steps of:  
transferring the metal-working fluid into a heating vessel;  
heating the metal-working fluid in the heating vessel to maintain the metal-working  
fluid at an elevated temperature during a heating period;  
agitating and aerating the metal-working fluid during at least a portion of the  
heating period;  
transferring the metal-working fluid out of the heating vessel into a holding vessel  
after the heating period; and  
transferring the metal-working fluid out of the holding vessel,  
wherein:  
a bottom portion of the heating vessel is provided with air inlets and air flow  
through the inlets and through the metal-working fluid agitates and aerates the  
metal-working fluid, and  
the air flow through the metal-working fluid flows out of the heating vessel through  
a de-mister.

14. (original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the de-mister comprises a centrifuge  
impactor.

15. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 11, wherein~~  
A method for treating metal working fluid, comprising the steps of:  
transferring the metal-working fluid into a heating vessel;  
heating the metal-working fluid in the heating vessel to maintain the metal-working  
fluid at an elevated temperature during a heating period;  
agitating and aerating the metal-working fluid during at least a portion of the  
heating period;  
transferring the metal-working fluid out of the heating vessel into a holding vessel  
after the heating period; and

transferring the metal-working fluid out of the holding vessel,  
wherein:  
a bottom portion of the heating vessel is provided with air inlets and air flow  
through the inlets and through the metal-working fluid agitates and aerates the  
metal-working fluid, and  
the air flow through the metal-working fluid flows out of the heating vessel through  
a filter.

16. (original) The method of Claim 15, wherein the filter comprises a charcoal filter.
- 17-25. (cancelled)
26. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of~~  
~~A method for treating metal working fluid, comprising the steps of:~~  
transferring the metal-working fluid into a heating vessel;  
heating the metal-working fluid in the heating vessel to maintain the metal-working  
fluid at an elevated temperature during a heating period;  
agitating and aerating the metal-working fluid during at least a portion of the  
heating period;  
transferring the metal-working fluid out of the heating vessel into a holding vessel  
after the heating period;  
transferring the metal-working fluid out of the holding vessel; and  
reducing a concentration in the metal-working fluid of at least one metal by  
passing the metal-working fluid through an ion-exchange filter.
27. (original) The method of Claim 26, wherein one of the at least one metal is cobalt.
28. (original) The method of Claim 26, wherein the ion-exchange filter includes a sulfonated divinyl-benzene-cross-linked polystyrene ion-exchange resin.
29. (original) The method of Claim 26, wherein metal-working fluid from the holding vessel is recirculated through the ion-exchange filter.
- 30-55. (cancelled)